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Appl. No. 09/530,803
Amendment dated October 31, 2003
Reply to Office Action dated July 31, 2003

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) Coloured polymer composition comprising

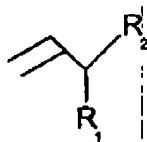
- a propylene nucleated with a polymerized vinyl compound and having an at least 7°C higher crystallization temperature than that of the corresponding non-nucleated polymer, and
- a colour pigment having a concentration of 0.01 greater than 1 wt-% to 5 wt-% calculated from the weight of the nucleated propylene polymer

wherein said polymer nucleated with a polymerized vinyl compound comprises a propylene polymer polymerized in the presence of a catalyst modified with a polymer containing vinyl compound units.

2. (Original) The composition according to claim 1, wherein the colour pigment has a nucleating effect on the propylene polymer.

3. (Original) The composition of claim 1 or 2, wherein the shrinkage of the composition, calculated by comparing the measured dimension of an injection moulded box with the nominal mould dimension, varies less than 5% for different colour pigments.

4. (Original) The polymer composition according to claim 1, wherein the propylene polymer contains about 0.0001 to 1% by weight of units derived from a vinyl compound of the formula



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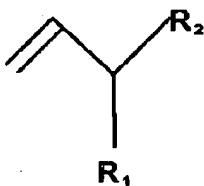
wherein R₁ and R₂ together for a 5 and 6 membered saturated or unsaturated or aromatic ring or they stand independently for a lower alkyl comprising 1 to 4 carbon atoms.

5. **(Previously Presented)** The polymer composition according to claim 4, wherein the propylene polymer contains units derived from cycloalkane units, 3-methyl-1-butene, styrene, p-methyl-styrene, 3-ethyl-hexane units or mixtures thereof.
6. **(Canceled)**
7. **(Previously Presented)** The polymer composition according to claim 1, wherein the polymer nucleated with a polymerized vinyl compound comprises a propylene homo- or copolymer blended with a polymer containing polymerized vinyl compound units.
8. **(Previously Presented)** The polymer composition according to claim 1, wherein the pigment is selected from the group consisting of white pigments, pigments ranging from yellow to orange, pigments ranging from red to violet, pigments ranging from blue to green and carbon black.
9. **(Previously Presented)** The polymer composition according to claim 8, wherein the pigment is selected from the group consisting of titanium dioxide, isoindolinone, azocondensation, quinacridone, diketo pyrrolo pyrrol, ultramarine blue, Cu Phtalocyanine blue and carbon black.
10. **(Previously Presented)** A method for preparing a colored polymer composition comprising blending a nucleated propylene polymer composition comprising propylene polymer nucleated with a polymerized vinyl compound and having an at least 7°C higher crystallization temperature than the corresponding non-nucleated polymer, with a

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coloring pigment, wherein the concentration of said coloring pigment is 0.01 to 5 wt % calculated from the weight of said nucleated propylene polymer.

11. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 10 wherein 100 parts by weight of said nucleated [poly]propylene polymer composition contains about 0.0001 to 1% by weight of units derived from a vinyl compound of the formula



wherein R_1 and R_2 together form a 5 or 6 membered saturated or unsaturated or aromatic ring or they stand independently for a lower alkyl comprising 1 to 4 carbon atoms.

12. (Previously Presented) A method for the manufacture of polymer articles comprising subjecting the polymer compound according to claim 1 to injection moulding or compression moulding, thermoforming, blow moulding, film or sheet extrusion, or pipe or cable extrusion to obtain polymer articles.

13. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 12, wherein said polymer articles are caps or closures for food, household, hygiene or health-care applications.

14. (Previously Presented) The polymer composition according to claim 5, wherein said propylene polymer contains units selected from units derived from the group consisting of vinyl cyclohexane, vinyl cyclopentane, vinyl-2-methyl cyclohexane or mixtures thereof.

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15. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 11, wherein said nucleated propylene polymer is blended with 0.01 – 5 parts by weight of a coloring pigment selected from the group consisting of white pigments, green pigments, red pigments, blue pigments and carbon black, to provide a colored polypropylene composition, wherein the shrinkage of said colored polypropylene composition varies less than 5% for different color pigments, said shrinkage being calculated by comparing the measured dimension of an injection moulded box with the nominal mould dimension.

16. (New) A coloured polymer composition comprising

- a propylene nucleated with a polymerized vinyl compound and having an at least 7°C higher crystallization temperature than that of the corresponding non-nucleated polymer, and
- a colour pigment having a concentration of 2-5 wt-% calculated from the weight of the nucleated propylene polymer,

wherein said polymer nucleated with a polymerized vinyl compound comprises a propylene polymer polymerized in the presence of a catalyst modified with a polymer containing vinyl compound units.